

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An uncoated acrylic polymer product obtained from an acrylic composition comprising at least 70 % w/w of the residues of at least one polymerizable acrylic monomer, 0.2 – 5 % w/w of a ~~finely divided~~ colloidal dispersion of a compound having a particle size between 1 and 50 nm and comprising at least one oxide selected from silicon, titanium, zirconium and aluminum oxides, and 0.2-25 % w/w of at least one linking compound which is miscible with said polymerizable acrylic monomer and which is capable of bonding to the surface of the oxide compound.

2. (Previously amended) A product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the linking compound contains at least one functional group which is copolymerizable with the acrylic monomers and a polar group and which is capable of bonding to the surface of the oxide compound.

3. (Currently amended) An uncoated acrylic polymer product obtained from an acrylic composition comprising at least 70 % w/w of the residues of at least one polymerizable acrylic monomer, 0.2 – 5 % w/w of a ~~finely divided~~ colloidal dispersion of a compound having a particle size between 1 and 50 nm and comprising at least one oxide selected from silicon, titanium, zirconium and aluminum oxides, and 0.2-25 % w/w of at least one linking compound which is miscible with said polymerizable acrylic monomer and which is capable of bonding to the surface of the oxide compound, wherein the linking compound comprises a monofunctional or polyfunctional acrylate or methacrylate compound which additionally contains a polar group.

4. (Currently amended) An uncoated acrylic polymer product obtained from an acrylic composition comprising at least 70 % w/w of the residues of at least one polymerizable acrylic monomer, 0.2 – 5 % w/w of a ~~finely divided~~ colloidal dispersion of a compound comprising at least one oxide selected from silicon, titanium, zirconium and aluminum oxides, and 0.2-25 % w/w of at least one linking compound which is miscible with said polymerizable acrylic monomer and which is capable of bonding to the surface of the oxide compound, wherein the linking compound is selected from hydroxyethylmethacrylate, hexanedioldiacrylate or tripropylglycolmethacrylate.

5. (Previously amended) An uncoated acrylic polymer product obtained from an acrylic composition comprising at least 70 % w/w of the residues of at least one polymerizable acrylic monomer, 0.2 – 5 % w/w of a finely divided oxide compound and 0.2-25 % w/w of at least one linking compound which is miscible with said polymerizable acrylic monomer and which is capable of bonding to the surface of the oxide compound, wherein the finely divided oxide compound comprises colloidal silica.

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently amended) A product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of said linking compound to said ~~finely divided~~ colloidal dispersion of said oxide is in the range 1:1 - 5:1 by weight.

8. (Currently amended) An uncoated acrylic polymer product obtained from a polymerizable composition comprising at least 70 % w/w of at least one polymerizable acrylic monomer, 0.2 – 5 % w/w of a ~~finely divided~~ colloidal dispersion of a compound having an average particle size between 1 and 50 nm and comprising at least one oxide selected from silicon, titanium, zirconium and aluminum oxides, and 0.2-25 % w/w of at least one linking compound which is miscible with said polymerizable acrylic monomer and which is capable of bonding to the surface of the oxide compound.

9. (Currently amended) A process for forming an acrylic composition comprising:

- (a) mixing together 70-99.5% w/w of a polymerisable acrylic monomer or a solution of a polymer in a polymerisable acrylic monomer with 0.5-30% w/w of a dispersion comprising 20-50% w/w of a finely divided compound selected from oxides of silicon, titanium, zirconium or aluminum derived from a colloidal dispersion of particles of said compound and 50 – 80% of at least one linking compound which is miscible with said polymerisable acrylic compound and which is capable of bonding to the surface of the oxide compound;
- (b) adding to said mixture a quantity of one or more initiator(s) which is sufficient to initiate polymerization of the acrylic monomer under the conditions used; and
- (c) polymerising the acrylic monomer.

10. (Previously amended) A product as claimed in claim 1, in the form of a sheet, powder, pellet or bead.

11. (Currently amended) Process of manufacturing an uncoated abrasion resistant polymer product comprising polymerizing and shaping an acrylic composition comprising at least 70 % w/w of the residues of at least one polymerizable acrylic monomer, 0.3 – 5 % w/w of a finely divided compound having an average particle size between 1 and 50 nm and comprising at least one oxide selected from silicon, titanium, zirconium and aluminum oxides derived from a colloidal dispersion of particles of said compound, and 0.2-25 % w/w of at least one linking compound which is miscible with said polymerizable acrylic monomer and which is capable of bonding to the surface of the oxide compound.

12. (Currently amended) Process of manufacturing an uncoated abrasion resistant polymer product comprising polymerizing and shaping a polymerizable composition comprising greater than 70 % w/w of at least one polymerizable acrylic monomer, 0.3 – 5 % w/w of a finely divided compound having an average particle size between 1 and 50 nm and comprising at least one oxide selected from silicon, titanium, zirconium and aluminum oxides derived from a colloidal dispersion of particles of said compound, and 0.2-25 % w/w of at least one linking compound which is miscible with said polymerizable acrylic monomer and which is capable of bonding to the surface of the oxide compound.